

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 8, 2004. Claims 1 to 8, 10 to 19, and 26 to 41 are in the application, with Claims 1, 2, 38, and 39 being independent. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 13, 17 to 19, 27, 28, 31, 35 to 38 have been amended. Claims 39 to 41 have been newly added.

Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that Claims 2 and 26 to 37 have been allowed. The amendments made to Claims 2, 27, 28, 31, and 35 to 37 are not believed to affect their allowability. Accordingly, Claims 2 and 26 to 37 are believed to remain in condition for allowance.

Newly-added Claim 39 contains the features referred to in the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance set forth at paragraph 7 of the Office Action. Accordingly, Claim 39 is also believed to be allowable.

Claims 1, 3 to 8, and 10 to 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. (It is believed that Claims 7 and 8 were inadvertently included in the list of rejected claims, since these claims do not depend from Claim 1). The amendments made to Claim 1 are believed to obviate the grounds of rejection.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 19, and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over JP 11-260320 (JP '320). Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over JP '320 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,387,567 (Noh). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

According to one feature of the invention as recited by Claims 1 and 38, the sealing member (a) is provided with a power output terminal having electrical continuity

with said cathode, a power output terminal having electrical continuity with said anode, and an insulating portion for insulating said power output terminals.

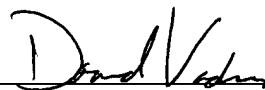
JP '320 and Noh, either alone or in combination, are not seen to teach or suggest at least the foregoing feature.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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